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Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 DAR ES 04735 240753Z
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 /071 W
----------240848Z 118087 /21
R 232010Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3558
INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS DAR ES SALAAM 4735

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, PINS,SS
SUBJ: POLISARIO FRONT NEWS CONFERENCE

1. 1. POLISARIO FRONT "FOREIGN MINISTER", IBRAHIM HAKIM, GAVE PRESS CONFERENCE IN DAR ES SALAAM DEC 20, IN COURSE OF EAST AFRICAN TOUR HE IS MAKING TO DRUM UP SUPPORT FOR HIS WESTERN SAHARA "LIBERATION MOVEMENT."

2. HE ASSUSED SPAIN OF BEING BEHIND "MOROCCO-MAURITANIAN INVATION" OF HIS COUNTRY, AND SAID SPAIN WAS SUPPLYING BOTH WITH ARMS IN ORDER TO SEEK CONTROL OF THE COUNTRY'S MINERAL WEALTH. HE CLAIMED, HOWEVER, THAT AS A RESULT OF POLISARIO MILITARY SUCCESSES, BOTH MOROCCO AND MAURITANIA HAVE BEGUN TO SEEK A RAPPROCHEMENT: "KING HASSAN'S CALL FOR A REFERENDUM IN WESTERN SAHARA IS A CLEAR INDICATION THAT HIS FORCES ARE SUFFERING HEAVY LOSSES IN THE HANDS OF POLISARIO."

3. HAKIM CLAIMED THAT POLISARIO FORCES HAVE PENETRATED 800
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KILOMETERS INSIDE MAURITANIA, AND THAT "LAST WEEK" THEY ATTACKED NEEMA, THE CAPITAL OF EAST MAURITANIA REGION. HE ASSERTED THAT 14,000 MOROCCAN TROOPS HAVE BEEN KILLED AND MORE THAN 1,000 TAKEN PRISONER, AND THAT POLISARIO HAD CAPTURED EXTENSIVE MATERIAL, INCLUDING 140 US-MADE JEEPS, 100 PIECES OF "INS-TRUMENTS FOR DETECTING ENEMY POSITIONS," AND 5 HEAVY TRUCKS

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WITH "SIX ELECTRONIC GUNS EACH."
SPAIN

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NNN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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